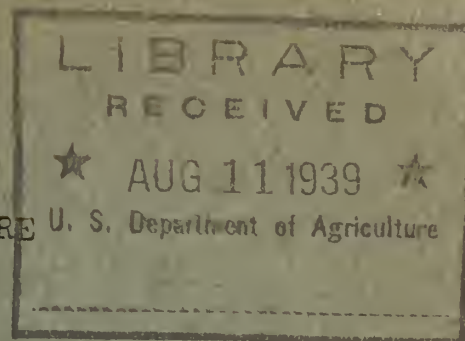


## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
Region Eight  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

U. S. Department of Agriculture

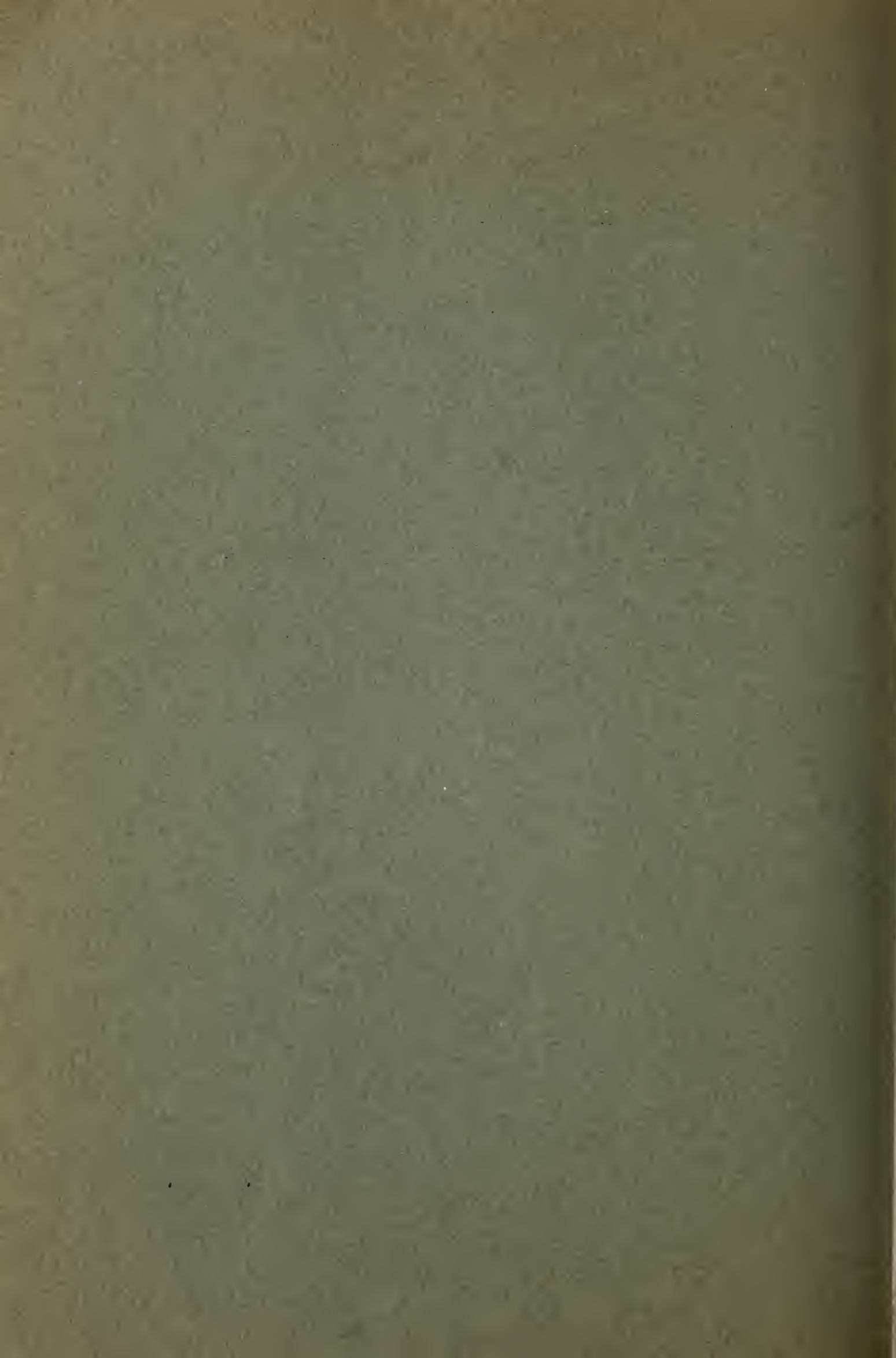
Hugh G. Calkins  
Regional Conservator

VILLAGE LIVELIHOOD IN THE UPPER RIO GRANDE AREA

and

A Note on the Level of Village Livelihood in the  
Upper Rio Grande Area

Regional Bulletin No. 44  
Conservation Economics Series No. 17  
July, 1937



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE  
Region Eight  
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Hugh G. Calkins  
Regional Conservator

VILLAGE LIVELIHOOD IN THE UPPER RIO GRANDE AREA

and

A Note on the Level of Village Livelihood in the  
Upper Rio Grande Area

Regional Bulletin No. 44  
Conservation Economics Series No. 17  
July, 1937





The Jemez-Tewa, Puerco, and Middle Rio Grande Areas, which constitute that portion of the Upper Rio Grande Watershed lying between the Colorado State line and Elephant Butte Reservoir, <sup>(1)</sup> contain a rural population of approximately 92,000, including 9,000 Indians, 70,000 Spanish-Americans, and 13,000 Anglo-Americans, the latter relative newcomers to the area. The bulk of the native Indian and Spanish-American population lives and has lived for centuries in small concentrated villages clustered in the narrow valleys of the Rio Grande and its tributaries. This village population was for several centuries prior to about 1880 dependent almost entirely upon the land, upon the small and limited irrigable patches adjacent to the villages and the range lands immediately surrounding them. Wider areas of range were open to use and reasonably protected from marauding Navajo and Apache Indians. These, however, seem to have been appropriated for almost exclusive use by a few large sheep-owners, the "ricos", who even then in the early nineteenth century were carrying on large-scale commercial livestock operations.

Following annexation by the United States and subjugation of the raiding Indians wider areas of range became available for use, but, to a large extent, not to the village population. With the coming of the railroads in the 1880s new

---

(1) Hereafter in this paper the term "Upper Rio Grande Area" will be used to designate this area.





and wide markets were opened and commercial livestock operations became highly feasible. Competition for range became intense and in the course of this competition the villagers did not benefit. Title to large grants of land, previously open to use by the villagers, passed by one means and another into the hands of enterprising and perhaps not too scrupulous American "builders of the West". Range land which had been open to the use of the villagers became legally closed to them. The establishment of the National Forests and the opening of the Public Domain to homesteading further restricted the area of range available to the village population. The "Opening of the West" describes in the Upper Rio Grande Area no heroic act of pioneering. It is a euphony for a series of devious legal manipulations by which a population already dense in relation to land resources was deprived of a large portion of its resource base.

The building of the railroads and the expansion of mining and other non-agricultural activity in the area, however, provided opportunities to the village population for the sale of surplus labor. The income from wage work, though small, satisfied the expanding needs which could not be met by increased dependence upon livestock. Small tracts of irrigated land remained the basis of village livelihood in their



provision for basic food needs but they provided little or no surplus which could be exchanged for other needed goods.

Through the years from the turn of the century to 1930 the range lands open to use by the villagers slowly but steadily were constricted. Large numbers of village stock were confined to relatively small and inadequate areas with the consequence of extreme depletion of the forage resources of those areas. Dependence upon wagework increased, but the margin of livelihood above bare existence continued so narrow that every head of livestock that could be grazed was, for most the village population, not merely additional income but an integral and necessary part of livelihood. Scarcity of range was one of the factors which led owners of small herds to accept contracts as partidarios with large commercial livestock operators who controlled large areas of range land. The net income derived by the partidario from such arrangements, it has been indicated in other places, is neither adequate nor secure. Scarcity of both range and cultivable land has obliged villagers to accept seasonal employment such as that in the beet fields where wages were frequently below the level required for the barest subsistence.

Since 1930 the opportunities for wage work open to



the village population have been sharply reduced. At the same time, through government purchase of additional areas of range-land used by the villagers, and subsequent restriction of their use, and through the continuing depletion of range areas surrounding the villages the possibility of deriving income from livestock has become increasingly limited. The consequence has been heavy dependency in the past few years upon governmental relief. Sample surveys indicate that some 60 per cent of all the rural families in the Upper Rio Grande Area received relief in some form for substantial portions of the years 1935 and 1936. Total federal expenditures for relief to the rural population of the area during those two years were approximately \$3,600,000 or \$1,800,000 per year. Deducting approximately \$200,000 as the estimated amount of relief annually to rural Anglo-Americans in the area, approximately \$1,600,000 remains as the amount contributed to the livelihood of the native populations of the area each year. This amount is partially indicative of the highly critical situation which obtains in the economy of the villages of the Upper Rio Grande Area.

That the situation is even more critical is indicated by examination of the data on estimated income of the native populations in the year 1936. Table I indicates a total income





Table I

Estimated Total Income of Spanish-American  
and Indian Population of Upper Rio Grande  
Area (1)

Source	Spanish-Americans	Indians	Total	%
(2) Land	4,832,953	224,674	5,057,626	50
(2) Livestock	1,360,266	165,527	1,525,793	15
Relief	1,143,051	242,004	1,385,055 <sup>(3)</sup>	14
Wages and Other	1,779,289	276,071	2,055,360	21
TOTAL	9,115,559	908,276	10,023,835	100

(1)

Estimated from data on samples of Indian and Spanish-American population covered by Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service;

10% sample of Spanish-American population  
53% sample of Indian population

(2)

Includes non-cash income. Calculated by assigning value to article produced and consumed at home.

(3)

This figure, it will be noted, is \$400,000 lower than the figure for annual relief expenditures quoted in the text above. The difference is accounted for by \$200,000 unpaid balance on Rural Rehabilitation Loans, and some \$200,000 estimated relief to the 13,000 rural Anglo-Americans in the area.



Table II

Estimated Income of Rural Spanish-American Population  
of Upper Rio Grande Area - 1936

AREA	INCOME OF POPULATION COVERED BY SURVEY (1) FROM				TOTAL POPULATION  Number	TOTAL INCOME OF TOTAL POPULATION (3)			
	Land \$	Livestock \$	Relief \$	Wages \$		Land \$	Livestock \$	Relief \$	Wages \$
Jemez-Tewa	76.86	27.55	17.02	25.51	34,555	2,655,897	951,990	558,126	881,498
Puerco	88.57	37.08	19.74	33.35	5,679	502,989	210,577	112,103	189,395
Middle Rio Grande	56.48	6.67	14.94	23.90	29,640	1,674,067	197,699	412,822	708,396
TOTAL					69,874	4,832,953	1,360,266	1,143,051	1,779,289
(1) In Jemez-Tewa Area - 4136 or 12% of total population of area									
In Puerco Area - 1180 or 21% of total population									
In Middle Rio Grande Area - 1289 or 4% of total population of area									
In total area 6605 or 10% of total population									

(2) As of 1930

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service



Table III

Estimated Income of Pueblo Indian Population of  
Upper Rio Grande Area - 1936.

AREA	PER CAPITA INCOME OF POPULATION COVERED BY SURVEY (1) FROM				TOTAL POPULATION (2) Number	TOTAL INCOME OF TOTAL POPULATION (3)			
	Land \$	Livestock \$	Relief \$	Wages \$		Land \$	Livestock \$	Relief \$	Wages \$
Jemez-Tewa	31.66	8.47	36.62	17.08	4742	150,132	40,165	173,652	80,993
Puerco	12.20	37.02	8.39	56.17	3123	38,101	115,613	26,202	15,419
Middle Rio Grande	31.66	8.47	36.62	17.08	1151	36,441	9,749	42,150	19,659
TOTAL					9016	224,674	165,527	242,004	276,071

- (1) In Jemez-Tewa Area, 2094, or 44% of total population of area  
 In Puerco Area, 2673 or 86% of total population of area  
 In Middle Rio Grande Area, no population covered by survey; per capita figures assumed to be  
 same as those for Jemez-Tewa Area  
 In total area, 4767 or 53% of total population of area

(2) As of 1930

(3) Calculated by multiplying per capita income figures by total population for each area  
 based on Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service





of approximately \$10,000,000, with cultivated land, the basic resource, supplying 50 per cent of the total. Income from livestock constitutes 15 per cent of the total, approximately \$1,500,000. This income is derived from sheep, cattle, and goats, whose number is estimated to total roughly 150,000, in terms of cattle units year long. The projected and desperately necessary government program of conservation of land resources will entail a reduction of overwhelming proportions in this number of livestock, if the village population is to be restricted to the use of only those areas of range now available to them. A correspondingly large reduction in the income from livestock would result. Income from this source, unless additional range were provided, might easily be reduced to less than \$1,000,000 per year. Study of employment opportunities for the rural population of the area indicates that approximately \$1,300,000 is the total annual income from non-relief wage work that may be expected over the next period of years; this is a considerable reduction over the 1936 estimated income from that source. In the Middle Rio Grande Area foreclosure suits have been filed against the land of all those delinquent in the payment of taxes to the Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District. Income from land in that area was, as



Table IV  
Families by Size in Spanish-American Villages (1)

Number in Family	Number of Families
1	43
2	119
3	154
4	151
5	146
6	100
7	66
8	66
9	53
10	36
11	12
12	5
13	1
14	1
15	1
16	0
17	0
18	0
19	1
TOTAL	987

Total Number of Persons - 4928

Mean - 5.1

Median - 5

(1) Pojoaque Area, Abiquiu Area, Dixon

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service



Table V  
 Families by Size in Indian Pueblos (1)

Number in Family	Number of Families
1	15
2	48
3	79
4	68
5	63
6	72
7	66
8	38
9	19
10	22
11	6
12	6
13	8
14	0
15	3
16	2
17	3
18	0
19	0
20	1
TOTAL	519

(1) San Juan, Jemez, Laguna

Total Number of Persons - 2906

Mean - 5.6  
 Median - 5

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service





indicated in Table II, close to \$1,700,000 in 1936. The village population is now threatened with the imminent loss of a major part of the land resource from which that income was derived. In sum, unless action is taken to preserve for the native village populations of the area the resources they now have, and to make available to them additional resources, the expenditure, according to rough estimate, of between \$4,000,000 and \$5,000,000 annually for relief to this population will be required.

Examination of detailed quantitative data on village livelihood indicates that even now with a total income of approximately \$10,000,000 or an average income of \$650 per family the situation in the villages is highly critical. The critical nature of the situation derives from the fact that, scarce as they are, resources and income are by no means evenly distributed among the village population, and that the livelihood represented by \$650 per family is extremely meager.

The scarcity of resources makes dependence upon a variety of sources for income requisite. Table VI indicates that over 80 per cent of the families in one group of Spanish American villages derive income from two or more sources, and 44 per cent from three or more sources. It indicates further



Table VI

Number of Sources of Income for Families  
in Spanish-American Villages (1)

Income Class	Number of Families Deriving Income From				Total
	1 Source	2 Sources	3 Sources	4 Sources	
1 - 300	40	40	21	1	102
301 - 600	9	50	33	9	101
601 - 1000	1	10	35	11	57
1001 - 2000	4	11	20	5	40
2001 and over	2	13	9	0	24
TOTAL	57	124	118	26	324

(1) Abiquiu Area

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation  
Service



that only in the highest and lowest income classes do a larger number of families obtain income from two sources or less than from three sources or more. The bulk of those families with incomes between \$600 and \$2,000 obtain income from either three or four sources. On the other hand the bulk of those families obtaining income from only one source are in the class with total incomes under \$300.

Cultivated land is the most widely distributed resource. In a sample of 929 families in twenty Spanish-American villages 37 per cent own some cultivated land. The distribution of ownership is indicated in Table VII. The total range of holdings is from 1 to over 50 acres, but one-third the total number of families own 2 acres or less, two-thirds own 6 acres or less and three-fourths own ten acres or less.

Livestock ownership is less widely distributed; 62 per cent of the 957 families upon whom data are available own livestock. (See Table VIII). The total range of holdings is from less than 1 cattle unit year long to several thousand cattle units year long, but 30 per cent of the total number of families own less than 5 cattle units, and almost 90 per cent own less than 10 cattle units.

In a somewhat smaller sample taken from one area, 45 per cent of a total 324 families derived income from relief,





Table VII

Ownership of Cultivated Land By Size of Holding  
in Spanish-American Villages (1)

Size of Holding (Acres)	No. of Families
0	124
1	87
2	100
3	91
4	86
5	74
6	65
7	40
8	28
9	26
10	33
11	15
12	21
13	13
14	6
15	16
16	11
17	4
18	2
19	3
20	9
21 and over	83
TOTAL	929

(1) Pojoaque, Dixon, Abiquiu

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service



Table VIII

Ownership of Livestock by Size of Herd in  
Spanish-American Villages (1)

Size of Herd	Number of Families
<u>Cow Units</u>	
0	299
1	123
2	130
3	86
4	81
5	48
6	28
7	17
8	19
9	9
10	12
11	3
12	10
13	6
14	2
15	2
16	6
17	7
18	2
19	4
20 and over	51
TOTAL	951

(1) Pojoaque Valley, Abiquiu Area, Dixon

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service



and 43 per cent derived income from wages. The total range of income from relief was from \$10 to \$375, but three-fourths of all families derived less than \$100 from this source.

(See Table IX). The total range of income from vagework was from \$20 to \$1800, but 70 per cent of all families obtained \$100 or less from this source, and almost 80 per cent obtained \$200 or less from this source. (See Table X).

The significance of the uneven distribution of resources is apparent in the distribution of income from various sources and of total income. In the approximations of total income the annual products of land and livestock have been valued in monetary terms in order that they be comparable with income from relief and wages. Those products which were consumed in the home were valued at retail prices.

Table XI showing the distribution of total gross income among a sample of 1062 families in 20 villages indicates that 64 per cent of all families have total incomes of \$600 or less. Another 18 per cent have total incomes between \$600 and \$1,000. Approximately two-thirds of all families, then, have total incomes less than the \$650 average family income in the entire Upper Rio Grande Area.

Per family income from various sources is shown by income class in Table XII. It is evident from this table



Table IX

Distribution of Income From Relief By  
Class in Spanish-American Villages (1)

Income Received From Relief	Number of Families Receiving
<u>Dollars</u>	
0	176
1 - 100	71
101 - 200	32
201 - 300	35
301 - 400	10
TOTAL	324

(1)

Abiquiu Area

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service





Table X

Distribution of Income From Non-Relief  
Wagework by Class in Spanish-American  
Villages (1)

Income From Wages	Number of Families Receiving
<u>Dollars</u>	
0	136
1 - 100	42
101 - 200	22
201 - 300	21
301 - 400	16
401 - 500	14
501 - 600	7
601 - 700	2
701 - 800	2
801 - 900	2
901 - 1000	3
1000 and over	7
TOTAL	324

(1) Atiquiu Area.

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation  
Service.



Table XI

Distribution of Total Gross Income by Class  
in Spanish-American Villages (1)

Income Class	Number of Families	Per Cent of All Families
<u>Dollars</u>		
1 - 300	341	32
301 - 600	335	32
601 - 1000	188	18
1001 - 2000	140	13
2000 & over	58	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1062</b>	<b>100</b>

(1) Dixon, Cuba, Abiquiu Area, Pojoaque Valley

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation  
Service



that total income per family varies almost directly with income from cultivated land. It is further evident that livestock contributes only a small proportion of the total income of those families below the \$1,000 level. Income from relief wagework constitutes another major difference between those families with incomes under \$600 and those with incomes between \$600 and \$1,000.

Table XIII indicates the proportion of income from various sources which accrues to different income classes. As indicated, the families with incomes over \$2,000 constituting only 5 per cent of the total number of families have 80 per cent of all the income from livestock and 29 per cent of all the income from cultivated land. Those families with incomes under \$600, constituting 64 per cent of the total number of families, had just 6 per cent of the total income from livestock, and 26 per cent of the total income from cultivated land. The effects of an uneven distribution of resources in circumstances of extreme scarcity of resources are evidenced in this and in the fact that 65 per cent of the large total relief income accrued to this class.

The situation in the Indian Pueblos is an almost





Table XII

Total Gross Income Per Family By Class In  
Spanish-American Villages (1)

Source	Income Class				
	\$ 1 - 300	\$ 301 - 600	\$ 601 - 1000	\$ 1001 - 2000	\$1000 or more
Land	85	238	453	723	2103
Livestock	8	17	41	107	2181
Wages	59	121	117	69	23
Relief	39	70	224	377	281
TOTAL	181	446	865	1,276	4,588

(1) Abiquiu Area, Fojorque Valley, Cuba, Dixon

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service



Table XIII

Distribution of Income From Various  
Sources by Income Class (1)

Source	Total	1-300	300-600	600-1000	1000-2000	2000 & over
	%	%	%	%	%	%
Land	100	7	19	21	24	29
Livestock	100	2	4	5	9	80
Relief	100	22	43	23	10	2
Wages	100	7	16	29	36	12
TOTAL	100	8	18	20	22	32

(1) Dixon, Cuba, Pojoaque Valley, Abiquiu Area

From Human Dependency Survey of Soil Conservation Service



exact parallel of that in the Spanish-American villages.

The amount of income, the distribution of resources and of income and other characteristics observed in the Spanish-American villages are duplicated in the Indian Pueblos.

Charts I and II indicate the parallel.

No studies of levels of livelihood have been conducted in the Upper Rio Grande Area. The incomplete data available indicates that a total income of \$650 per family of five will permit only the simplest and most meager diet, one that would be judged inadequate according to all standards ordinarily set. It will permit the purchase of clothing in amounts insufficient to provide protection from cold. It will permit no expenditures for health, for education or for recreation, and no savings of any type. It will permit even the minimum described only by virtue of the fact that relatively adequate housing and fuel may be obtained by the expenditure of labor alone and almost no cash. Without effective planning and action by and in behalf of the native populations of the area their future, even with enormous governmental expenditures for relief, is not bright.



## APPENDIX





[illegible]

## POJOAQUE VALLEY



450	150	0	300	0	409	150	8	311	0	555	505	30	0	0	595	210	0	155	0
446	165	15	266	0	409	150	8	249	0	544	500	8	0	0	590	150	0	112	18
446	60	8	138	240	407	240	8	166	0	540	500	5	300	0	589	105	22	242	0
445	150	1	294	0	405	180	0	15	0	540	500	0	187	0	583	105	15	215	0
440	90	0	125	225	405	180	15	0	0	540	500	0	230	0	570	100	70	0	0
437	130	15	242	0	403	20	0	143	240	520	180	1	0	270	500	120	27	204	0
433	300	30	13	90	408	165	98	225	0	520	120	57	0	0	597	120	0	224	0
428	375	53	0	0	407	240	2	245	0	520	120	15	0	0	593	100	32	112	200
428	420	8	0	0	400	120	0	0	0	520	120	15	16	105	526	120	0	212	0
427	120	37	0	270	400	180	0	0	0	520	120	15	0	0	585	100	0	0	0
427	360	0	67	0	400	180	0	0	0	520	120	15	0	75	597	120	15	152	0
425	150	8	237	30	400	165	8	101	200	520	120	15	0	0	570	100	15	91	0
423	300	8	115	0	400	150	22	300	0	520	120	15	0	0	570	100	22	0	0
420	120	0	240	0	400	150	0	228	0	520	120	15	0	150	570	100	0	30	280
418	105	0	313	0	400	160	62	166	0	520	120	15	0	0	569	100	15	301	0
415	360	15	0	40	400	160	0	301	0	520	120	15	0	0	566	100	0	0	0
413	360	8	45	0	400	150	8	300	0	520	120	15	0	0	565	100	0	0	0
409	60	30	319	0	400	150	264	8	0	520	120	15	0	0	564	100	0	0	0
405	0	0	300	105	400	150	0	212	0	520	120	15	0	0	562	100	0	0	0
401-450L	C	R	C	R	451-500L	C	R	C	R	501-550L	C	R	C	R	551-600L	C	R	C	R
401-450L	C	R	C	R	451-500L	C	R	C	R	501-550L	C	R	C	R	551-600L	C	R	C	R
401-450L	C	R	C	R	451-500L	C	R	C	R	501-550L	C	R	C	R	551-600L	C	R	C	R

INCOME APPROXIMATION ARRAY

POJOAQUE VALLEY



749	240	142	271	96	800	130	0	300	320	849	480	75	244	0	85	475	30	0	130
749	270	0	79	400	786	120	3	28	630	848	840	8	0	0	878	130	31	127	180
736	720	16	0	0	784	40	52	72	600	845	600	30	215	0	872	450	22	0	400
736	1450	0	246	0	781	740	3	33	0	843	450	37	36	0	870	720	150	0	0
720	720	0	0	0	766	330	3	28	400	825	360	15	0	450	858	240	250	303	0
714	264	0	0	450	758	270	3	0	430	801	0	8	193	600	857	540	17	300	0
707	300	30	317	0	758	120	8	0	630	801	600	105	36	0	852	780	22	50	0
701-750	L	C	R	0	751-800	L	C	R	0	801-850	L	C	R	0	851-900	L	C	R	0
940	390	22	128	0	940	390	22	128	0	940	390	22	128	0	940	390	22	128	0
928	960	3	0	0	928	960	3	0	0	928	960	3	0	0	928	960	3	0	0
913	150	0	0	0	913	150	0	0	0	913	150	0	0	0	913	150	0	0	0
910	650	45	235	0	910	650	45	235	0	910	650	45	235	0	910	650	45	235	0
908	90	8	0	0	908	90	8	0	0	908	90	8	0	0	908	90	8	0	0
701-950	L	C	R	0	701-950	L	C	R	0	701-950	L	C	R	0	701-950	L	C	R	0
951-1000	L	C	R	0	951-1000	L	C	R	0	951-1000	L	C	R	0	951-1000	L	C	R	0

INCOME APPROXIMATION ARRAY

POJOAQUE VALLEY









A NOTE ON THE LEVEL OF VILLAGE LIVELIHOOD

IN THE

UPPER RIO GRANDE AREA



Analysis of data on income in the Spanish-American villages of the Upper Rio Grande Area indicated that the gross incomes of almost two-thirds of all village families were under \$600. (1) Monetary figures in themselves, however, provide only a rough indication of the standard of village living. The adequacy or inadequacy of the economy may be judged better by an examination of the actual substance and content of livelihood in the villages.

Available data, however, is extremely limited. No studies of consumption or standard of living have been conducted in the area. Those conducted in other rural areas are useful only for purposes of rough comparison because of the almost unique character of village life in the Upper Rio Grande Area. A limited amount of data on a small number of families has, however, been collected, which, while not definitive may be used for purposes of illustration.

A single consumption group, or family, has been selected for illustrative purposes. This family includes four persons, two adults and two children, aged 12 and 9 respectively.

In its home, the Santa Cruz Valley, it is considered neither well-off nor poor. It is regarded as somewhat above the average in income. The head of this family considers himself independent and his income relatively satisfactory, as

---

(1) See report on "Village Livelihood in the Upper Rio Grande Area".



do his neighbors. He has not left the area for seasonal labor since 1919, and except for a few months after the drought of 1934 has never either applied for or received any type of relief. Detailed data on the income and expenditures of this family were secured from records kept by the family head.

The family selected lives in a three room adobe house in Cuarteles in the Santa Cruz Valley. It owns 14 acres of irrigated land which are included in the Santa Cruz Irrigation District. Of these 14 acres, however, almost 9 are water-logged and can be used only for vega and pasture. The remainder is in crops. The only livestock owned are two work horses. The vega and pasture is used to feed the two work horses, and to fatten the six wether lambs purchased each year for meat. In the base year 1935, as in every year but one since 1919, the family was dependent for its entire income upon the irrigated land. The crops and income from this land are indicated in the following table:

Crop	Acres	Cash Sales	Value Used At Home
Garden vegetables	0.25	\$ 5.00	\$ 20.00
Chili	1.00	156.00	62.00
Corn	2.00	0	90.50
Orchard	2.00	180.00	14.50
Vega and pasture	<u>8.75</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>107.00</u>
Total	14.00	\$341.00	\$ 293.00





The total income of the family was \$635 with approximately half of it commercial income. Only a portion of the commercial income was received as actual cash; much of it was received directly in the form of goods at the trading store to which the surplus products were taken. A detailed list of the goods obtained in exchange for either surplus products or for cash follows:

### 1. Food

Lard, 90 lbs.	\$ 20.25
Coffee, 45 lbs.	9.90
Beans, 200 lbs.	10.00
Potatoes 100 lbs.	8.00
Sugar 100 lbs.	7.50
6 wethers	12.00
1 hog	8.00
Soda 12 pkgs.	1.20
A. C. Baking Powder, 12 cans	3.00
Salt 100 lbs.	1.50
Flour 1,200 lbs.	<u>40.80</u>
	\$ 122.15

### 2. Clothing

#### (a) For Wife

1 coat	\$10.00
1 pair shoes	3.35
1 dress	8.98
1 dress	7.98
2 pair underwear	.76
3 house dresses	2.12
2 pair hose	.92
1 sweater	1.89
1 pair gloves	1.50
	<u>45.70</u>

#### (b) For Man

3 workshirts	\$ 2.00
2 overalls	2.14
1 pair work shoes	2.50
1 pair Sunday shoes	3.00
2 Sunday shirts	2.80
3 pair light weight socks	.72
6 pair gloves	2.22
1 straw hat	1.00
4 pair underwear	3.60
	<u>\$ 20.88</u>



(c) For Grandson

1 pair overalls	\$1.57
1 pair shoes	2.00
1 pair shoes	1.50
1 suit	5.69
1 hat	1.50
3 pair socks	.55
2 underwear	1.35
3 workshirts	1.41
	<u>\$15.46</u>

(d) For Granddaughter

1 coat	\$3.49
1 dress	1.98
1 dress	1.79
1 dress	.68
1 hat	.68
2 pair hose	.26
1 cap	.35
1 pair shoes	2.00
1 pair shoes	.39
2 underwear	.94
	<u>\$13.28</u>

3. Farm and Household Equipment

Gear	\$2.85
Pinions	.65
Plats with rivets	.70
Pitman Woods	.50
Binder sections	.85
Knife head	.38
Pitman boxes	.62
Knife clips	.08
Rake teeth	1.60
Side grinder	6.50
Flax point	2.10
Wagon skins	4.20
Wagon ties	14.00
Oak wagon spokes	7.20
Hatches	1.20
Kerosene (13 gallons)	3.25
Kalemine (4 packages)	3.00
	<u>\$49.77</u>

4. Miscellaneous

Tobacco, candy	\$9.00
School books	5.00
Medicines	4.00
Church	6.00
Interest on credit purchases (10%)	4.00
Trips for sale of produce and to	
Santa Fe	25.00
Local Fiesta	3.00
Other	4.00
	<u>\$60.00</u>



The only other expenditures were \$25 paid to the Santa Cruz Irrigation District for water taxes and \$5 paid to the county for county taxes. A summary of the cash expenditures follows:

Food	\$122.15
Clothing	83.42
Farm and House Equipment	49.17
Taxes	26.00
Miscellaneous	60.00
Total	\$341.34

The value of the food furnished by the farm was \$293. If no value is assigned to the housing and fuel used by the family, for which no expenditure other than that of labor was made, then the total value of the goods used by the family was \$635, food constituting \$415 of the total. The percentages of the total value of the family living constituted by various types of goods are as follows:

Food	65%
Clothing	13%
Equipment	8%
Taxes	4%
Miscellaneous	10%

Examination of studies of farm family living in other sections of the country indicates that, in terms of total value of family living and the distribution of the total value among various types of goods, the level represented by this single family in the Upper Rio Grande Area is comparable with that of tenant and cropper families in the old South. The level indi-



cated by studies of family living of owner families in the South and of all types of families in other parts of the country is generally considerably higher.

No analysis of the content of the family living detailed above can be attempted here. It may be noted, however, that the adequacy of the diet is at least open to question. The clothing purchased is meager. The expenditures for education are at a minimum. There are no expenditures for health care, and just \$4.00 for standard patent medicines. Recreational expenses hardly exist, and there are no savings of any type. Yet the living of this family is more ample than that of almost three-fourths of all village families in the area.

The per capita value of the living of the family used as illustration is \$159. The average size of family in the villages is 5, according to sample surveys. (1) The total income necessary to provide the living detailed above for the average family is, then, \$795. Surveys indicate that 64 per cent of all village families have incomes under \$600, and 18 per cent incomes between \$600 and \$1,000. (1) It may safely be estimated, therefore, that almost three-fourths of all village families live at a level lower than that represented by the family whose living is detailed above.

It is estimated that there are approximately 15,300 Spanish-American and Indian families in the villages of the

-----

(1) See report on "Village Livelihood in the Upper Rio Grande Area".







Upper Rio Grande Area. To provide for each of these families a living similar to that detailed above. \$795 per family or a total of almost \$12,200,000 would be required. It has been estimated (1) that the total income of these families in 1936 was approximately \$10,000,000, including \$1,400,000 from relief. The size of the deficit, even assuming even distribution of income among all families is some indication of the problem of the native populations of the Upper Rio Grande Area.

---

(1) "Village Livelihood in the Upper Rio Grande Area."

